

sum of the cost of constructing the bridge and its approaches and acquiring such interest in real property, and (4) actual expenditures for necessary improvements.

Tolls under State, etc., operation.
Rates applied to operation, sinking fund, etc.

Maintenance as free bridge, etc., after amortizing costs.

Record of expenditures and receipts.

Sworn statement of construction costs, etc., to be filed after completion.

Investigation by Secretary of War.

Findings of Secretary conclusive.

Right to sell, etc., conferred.

Amendment.

SEC. 3. If such bridge shall at any time be taken over or acquired by any municipality or other political subdivision or subdivisions of the State of Rhode Island under the provisions of section 2 of this Act, and if tolls are charged for the use thereof, the rates of toll shall be so adjusted as to provide a fund sufficient to pay for the cost of maintaining, repairing, and operating the bridge and its approaches, and to provide a sinking fund sufficient to amortize the amount paid for such bridge and its approaches as soon as possible under reasonable charges, but within a period of not to exceed twenty-five years from the date of acquiring the same. After a sinking fund sufficient to amortize the cost of acquiring the bridge and its approaches shall have been provided, such bridge shall thereafter be maintained and operated free of tolls, or the rates of tolls shall thereafter be so adjusted as to provide a fund of not to exceed the amount necessary for the proper care, repair, maintenance, and operation of the bridge and its approaches. An accurate record of the amount paid for the bridge and its approaches, the expenditures for operating, repairing, and maintaining the same, and of daily tolls collected shall be kept and shall be available for the information of all persons interested.

SEC. 4. The Mount Hope Bridge Company, its successors, and assigns shall within ninety days after the completion of such bridge file with the Secretary of War a sworn itemized statement showing the actual original cost of constructing such bridge and its approaches, the actual cost of acquiring any interest in real property necessary therefor, and the actual financing and promotion cost. The Secretary of War may at any time within three years after the completion of such bridge investigate the actual cost of constructing the same, and for such purpose the said Mount Hope Bridge Company, its successors, and assigns shall make available all of its records in connection with the financing and the construction thereof. The findings of the Secretary of War as to the actual original cost of the bridge shall be conclusive, subject only to review in a court of equity for fraud or gross mistake.

SEC. 5. The right to sell, assign, transfer, and mortgage all the rights, powers, and privileges conferred by this Act is hereby granted to the Mount Hope Bridge Company, its successors, and assigns, and any corporation to which or any person to whom such rights, powers, and privileges may be sold, assigned, or transferred, or who shall acquire the same by mortgage foreclosure or otherwise, is hereby authorized and empowered to exercise the same as fully as though conferred herein directly upon such corporation or person.

SEC. 6. The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is hereby expressly reserved.

Approved, March 3, 1927.

March 3, 1927.
[H. R. 9211.]

[Public, No. 766.]

CHAP. 363.—An Act To prescribe certain of the qualifications of voters in the Territory of Alaska, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this Act no person shall become or be an elector or voter at any general election, any special election, or any primary election, held in the Territory of Alaska for the purpose of electing or nominating any person or persons to or for the office of Delegate

Alaska.
Reading the Constitution, and writing English a qualification for voters at any election in.

to the House of Representatives of the United States from the Territory of Alaska, or to or for the office of Senator or member of the house of representatives of the Alaska Territorial Legislature, or to or for any other elective Territorial, municipal, or school office in the Territory of Alaska, unless such proposed voter or elector at the time of any such election and prior to voting thereat shall be able to read in the English language the Constitution of the United States and to write in the English language: *Provided*, That the requirements of this Act shall not apply to any person who is incapacitated from complying therewith by physical disability only: *And provided further*, That this Act shall not apply to any citizen who has legally voted at the general election of November 4, 1924.

Proviso.
Physically disabled
excepted.

Legal voters in 1924
excepted.

SEC. 2. That no person without the ability to read and write as herein required shall vote at any such election, except as provided in section 1 of this Act; nor shall any election officer knowingly permit any person without such ability to vote at any such election; and the inability of any person to so read and write shall constitute a sufficient ground of challenge to such person's voting by any qualified election officer or qualified elector or duly appointed watcher.

Voting prohibited, if
not so qualified.

Challenges, etc.

SEC. 3. That the ability to so read and write as herein provided shall be evidenced as follows: Every person, except as otherwise provided in section 1 of this Act, desiring to vote at any such election, before being permitted to vote, shall, without the aid or assistance of any person whomsoever, legibly sign his or her own full name, and write his or her own sex and address, in the registration or poll book, and, if he or she appears to the election officers, or any of them, not to have the ability to read and write as herein required or if he or she be challenged upon the ground of inability to read and write as herein required, then he or she shall be required, before voting, to read in the English language publicly and in the presence of the election officers and under the direction of the election officers or some one of them a passage of not less than ten lines chosen at random by the election officers or some or one of them from the Constitution of the United States, and to legibly write in the English language a passage of not fewer than ten consecutive words chosen at random by the election officers or some or one of them from the Constitution of the United States, and dictated by one of the election officers to such proposed voter.

Tests of ability to
read and write.

Personally signing
name, etc., in poll
book.

Reading in presence
of election officers if
challenged.

SEC. 4. That no person claiming to be exempt from the provisions of this Act by reason of physical disability shall be permitted to vote at any such election unless it is apparent to the election officers that such physical disability exists, and that except for such physical disability the proposed voter would be able to read and write in the English language as herein required.

Physical disability
exemptions restricted.

SEC. 5. That whenever any voter proves himself to be physically incapable of marking his ballot, one of the election judges may enter the voting booth with him and mark his ballot as directed by the voter. Such judge shall not disclose to any person the marking of the ballot.

Marking ballot, etc.,
for physically disabled
voter.

The judges of election shall make a return of all persons whose ballots are marked for them as provided in this section, stating the names of such persons and describing the disability of each, which return shall be signed by all of the judges.

Return to be made of
ballots so marked.

SEC. 6. That any person who is refused permission to vote at any election in any precinct by the election officers of such precinct on the ground that the proposed voter is unable to read and write in the English language as herein required, shall not again attempt

Person refused per-
mission at any precinct
barred from voting at
any other, etc.

to vote, or be permitted to vote, in the same or any other precinct at the same election.

United States residents for a year entitled to vote, if able to read or write English.

SEC. 7. That all citizens of the United States, twenty-one years of age and over, who are actual and bona fide residents of Alaska, and who have been such residents continuously during the entire year immediately preceding the election, and who have been such residents continuously for thirty days next preceding the election in the precinct in which they vote, and who are able to read and write the English language as herein prescribed and provided, and who are not barred from voting by any other provision of law, shall be qualified to vote at any of the elections herein mentioned.

Punishment for violations.

SEC. 8. That any person who violates any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500, or by imprisonment in jail for not more than six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Approved, March 3, 1927.

March 3, 1927.

[H. R. 6252.]

[Public, No. 767.]

CHAP. 364.—An Act Amending section 52 of the Judicial Code.

United States courts.
Vol. 36, p. 1101,
amended.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 52 of the Judicial Code be, and the same is hereby, amended by adding thereto the following:

Patent appeals.
District of Columbia
Supreme Court to issue
writs, if adverse party
in foreign country, etc.
Ante, p. 1336.
R. S., sec. 4918, p. 951.

"And upon the filing of a bill in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia wherein remedy is sought under section 4915 or section 4918 of the Revised Statutes, without seeking other remedy, if it shall appear that there is an adverse party residing in a foreign country, or adverse parties residing in a plurality of districts not embraced within the same State, the court shall have jurisdiction thereof and writs shall, unless the adverse party or parties voluntarily make appearance, be issued against all of the adverse parties with the force and effect and in the manner set forth in this section; provided that writs issued against parties residing in foreign countries pursuant to this section may be served by publication or otherwise as the court shall direct."

Service by publication.

Approved, March 3, 1927.

March 3, 1927.

[H. R. 3859.]

[Public, No. 768.]

CHAP. 365.—An Act To establish in the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the Department of Commerce a Foreign Commerce Service of the United States, and for other purposes.

Foreign Commerce
Service.
Established in De-
partment of Commerce.
Grades of officers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby established in the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the Department of Commerce the Foreign Commerce Service of the United States (hereinafter referred to as the "foreign commerce service"), consisting of officers to be graded in the following order and to be known as commercial attachés, assistant commercial attachés, trade commissioners, and assistant trade commissioners.

Duties specified.

SEC. 2. Under the direction of the Secretary of Commerce (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary"), the officers of the foreign commerce service shall—

Promotion of foreign
commerce.
Investigate, etc.,
commercial conditions
abroad.

(a) Promote the foreign commerce of the United States;
(b) Investigate and report upon commercial and industrial conditions and activities in foreign countries which may be of interest to the United States;